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1. The city of Pyatigorsk is located in the Northern Caucasus, 30 kilometers south of Mineral'nyye Vody. It is situated among five mountains; Mt Mashuk, Mt Beshtau (which has three peaks), and Mt Zhuchka. The River Podkumok flows through the city. It is a mountain stream that sometimes is 100 to 150 meters in width and flows very rapidly. To the south of Pyatigorsk, about six kilometers, there is a lake named "Tambukan". I don't remember its width or depth, but many people came to this lake for treatment for rheumatism because of the salt content of the water.
2. The city is located on the slope of Mt Mashuk and is bordered by a forest containing various types of trees. To the southwest of the city are fields of brush and small trees. There is a lot of vegetation in the city, extending into the valley beyond the city.
3. The old part of the city was built before the days of Pushkin, Lermontov, and Leo Tolstoy, and was partially destroyed during World War II. Some of the buildings and the railroad stations were destroyed by the Soviets and a few of the buildings in the center of town were destroyed by the retreating German army.
4. [redacted] many sanitariums and schools were being constructed but these remained uncompleted following the Soviet retreat. I have no information as to construction [redacted]
5. The only industry was a small cast-iron smelting foundry [redacted] There were approximately 500 to 700 workers in this small two-story building. Here we made cast-iron ingots in the shape of bricks, all of which were shipped out by the six to ten trucks the plant had. I don't know the destination of the ingots. In 1942 there were plans to enlarge this factory. I don't know the result of these plans. The only other industry was a small water-bottling plant where mineral water was bottled by 50 to 100 workers. Because of inadequate housing, about 5000 people were homeless in the city.

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6. Four kilometers north of the city, a memorial was constructed to Mikhail Yurievich Lermontov, the poet, on the spot where he had a duel with Martynov. This memorial, a small one, was encircled by a chain and was an attraction for many tourists, health patients, and others. Special buses were allotted to bring people to this memorial. An additional place of interest was a small pit, more like a well, which was formed by an earlier earthquake. This pit, with a diameter of 25 to 30 meters, had water at the bottom which smelled of sulfur. It was located about 10 kilometers from the memorial. There were also grottoes, or caverns, where Lermontov used to spend evenings writing poetry. The caverns were located on the slope of Mt Mashuk and were also a tourist attraction.
7. A wide, straight street ran through the center of the city. All other streets were narrow, crooked, and muddy. The main street had lights, but all streets were dark at the edges of the city except for the lights from kerosene lamps in homes. On each street corner, the name of the street was written either on a board or a piece of iron attached to the corner of a house. We had no street numbers.
8. Most of the buildings in the city were one and two-story high, except for the State Bank and the NKVD which were five-stories high. Some of the hospitals and sanitariums on the outskirts of the city were four, five, and six-stories high. All of these buildings were built of stone, or stone and brick. Ninety per cent of the roofs on the homes were of a red painted iron and the other ten per cent had roofing made of an oil-soaked pasteboard.
9. The name of the main street was "Sovetskaya" and it was about four kilometers long. A pedestrian lane called "Koshtanovaya Alleya" was in the middle of the street for its entire length. Streetcars also were in the middle of the street. Automobiles and carts travelled on both sides of the pedestrian lane. This main street was paved with asphalt. All others were of ordinary crushed stone and further out, towards the outskirts, they were dirt. The main street began at the Soviet Prospect which was at the railroad station, and it ended at the corner where the State Bank and the NKVD buildings stood. The majority of stores were located on this street.
10. As in all cities of the Soviet Union, there were large memorials to Lenin and to Stalin. There was a large park, "Tsvetnik", where health patients and citizens would listen to open-air symphony concerts during evenings. First-of-May parades were also held at this park and at Soviet Prospect.
11. Normal population of Pyatigorsk was about 125 thousand; but during the summer, with the influx of tourists and health-resort patients, this number grew to over 150 thousand.
12. The predominant population was Russian -- about 80 per cent. The remainder consisted of Kazakhs, Armenians, Greeks, Jews, Kabardians, and Chechen-Ingushes. There was some enmity among these nationality groups but I saw no open quarreling or fighting, because this was punishable by law.
13. Even before 1937 there were many DP's such as Greeks, Persians, and Germans. However, after 1938, because these DP's were deported to Siberian labor camps, there ceased to be noticeable foreign groups entering this city. Also after 1938, all such foreigners had severe restrictions imposed upon them. They could not join military forces. They had no right to vote. They could attend none of the higher schools of learning. It was also difficult for them to obtain a choice of work and they were under constant inspection and supervision of the NKVD and the militia.
14. About 80 to 85 per cent of the population was Orthodox faith; the remainder belonged to the Gregorian (Armenian) faith, and the Kabardians and Chechen-Ingushes were Mohammedans.
15. The railroad station is located in the southeastern part of the city. It is a small one-story building with an attached shed which serves as a freight station. The passenger station had five railroad lines and four high platforms because the trains were electrical. This station was only a local terminal station. The main railroad terminal for all railroads was in Mineral'nyye Vody. The Pyatigorsk station served the road to Kislovodsk to the south and to Mineral'nyye Vody to the north. The railroad track was double. Two or three express trains from Kharkov and Moscow arrived daily, bringing health patients. There were also a few freight trains.

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16. The city had no port because the river was very shallow.
17. An airfield about four kilometers southwest of Pyatigorsk served the city. It was on the left side of the railroad about 800 meters towards Kislovodsk. There were no paved runways. [redacted] the field was a solid green base. There were two hangars for airplane repair and a pilots' school. Trainees used 15 biplanes which were called the "Y-2".
18. There were three means of conveyance in the city: streetcars, buses, and cabs (wagonets). The streetcar system had five lines which went in various directions. These lines were designated by the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Streetcars were painted in two colors, the upper-half a bright yellow and the lower part black. They were much smaller than those in the US. During the summer, streetcars had trailers which were painted a bright red and had no doors or windows. Streetcars were manned by a conductor who collected fares of 20 kopecks to all directions. During World War II, soldiers in uniform rode free of charge. Buses were assigned only to transport those who came for health treatments. Local residents were not allowed to use them. There were also special buses which took passengers to memorials on Mt Mashuk. There was a cab station at the railroad depot where one could hire a cab to go anywhere he wanted. These cabs, painted black with no other distinctive marks, were MI type. Anyone could use taxis. [redacted] but tips played an important part in obtaining a cab.
19. Pyatigorsk is the seat of the Northern Caucasus Kray (it was earlier called the Stavropol'skiy Kray).
20. The city Soviet was located on Soviet Prospect between Bazarnaya and Kalininskaya Sts. The Military Office (mobilization point) was located on the corner of Sovetskaya and Budenovskaya Sts. The Index Department was located in the city Soviet. The Finance Department was located in the State Bank. The ZAKS and the Social Welfare Department were somewhere in this area - [redacted] the NKVD was located on the Soviet Prospect. This five-story large building was painted gray and was built of cement. The militia was also housed in this building.
21. There was one large prison, which was located in the western part of the city. This was a large building six floors high constructed of stone, brick, and wood and surrounded by high walls. All categories of prisoners were in this building. [redacted] there were no concentration camps. A few school buildings were converted into camps for political prisoners during World War II. Such prisoners were used for digging trenches.
22. Besides city police, there were also civil police and militia. Civil police kept order during air raids (they were called P V Kh O -- the Anti-Air-Chemical Defense Organization). The militia maintained order and regulated traffic throughout the city. One militiaman stood on each corner of the main street and directed traffic. Single militiamen also patrolled the park, railroad station, public square, and side streets in the center of town. On the outskirts of town one frequently saw two militiamen.
23. City police wore white uniforms during summer and blue during winter. Militiamen wore regular summer and winter uniforms; civil police were identified by arm bands, side arms, and helmets.
24. There were no restrictions during the night in peace time. But walking the streets after midnight was forbidden after the war began. Control of documents was abolished during peace time but all papers were checked often (four times a week) during the war. One was stopped and had his papers checked at the railroad station, at the movie houses, at the theater, and often on the streets. The usual excuse was that the police were looking for deserters from military service.

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25. All provisions, including newspapers, were rationed not only in Pyatigorsk but throughout the whole Soviet Union. It was necessary for one to get up at four or five A M in order to obtain goods. One had to stand in line at the doors of various stores. 25X1
26. The black market was in the homes. Chief goods used in black marketeering were bread, shoes, clothing material, sugar, cigarettes, coffee, and butter. [redacted] what prices were, but black marketeering was conducted on a large scale. The usual black marketeers were managers of stores and warehouses. Punishment for black marketeering was severe (five to ten years in Siberian labor camps). 25X1
27. The only local enterprises not under governmental supervision were small working groups (artels) -- all shoe cobblers and house slipper manufacturers for example. All other enterprises were government controlled and admittance to work in them was free. That is, each worker was able to search for his choice of work freely (with exception of those who were restricted as foreigners - paragraph 13).
28. Communist Party membership approached approximately 90 per cent by 1942. Of this group, about 10 per cent was active and devoted to Communism; the others were members of the Party for personal protection.
29. [redacted] one newspaper's being published in the city -- the "Pyatigorskaya Pravda". This paper published daily by the Communist Party organization sold at special newstands on streets. It contained continuous propaganda against capitalist nations. Offices of this paper were located on the main street, but [redacted] the exact address or the name of the last editor.
30. There was one local radio station in a building on the corner of Dzerzhinskiy Street and Soviet Prospect. This station operated on long wave frequency daily from four pm to six pm. Programs consisted of news items and lectures on political themes. The station also relayed Moscow broadcasts. After six pm daily, the station broadcasted music by request. About ten per cent of the population had receivers; the remainder of the population listened to loud speakers situated throughout the city. These speakers were connected directly to the radio station. During peace time the sale of receivers was unrestricted; but there were few of them and they were expensive (from 400 to 600 rubles). Anyone who could buy a receiver had to register his receiver with the militia. All receivers were confiscated during the war. Severe punishment was inflicted upon anyone who failed to surrender this receiver. It was very difficult to listen to foreign stations. Even if one had a receiver, transmission was muffled and distorted by various sounds.
31. [redacted] This was the "Bristol", located across from the main city park. The hotel was used mostly by official businessmen and party leaders. It was well constructed of stone and was three-stories high. During the Soviet Army retreat this hotel was only partially destroyed. 25X1
32. The city had about nine hospitals during peace time; but during the war all of the sanitariums were also converted into hospitals. Pyatigorsk was considered a medical city during the war. This was partially true during normal times because it was here that patients came for treatments for stomach ailments, rheumatism, heart disease, and tuberculosis. Sanitary conditions in Pyatigorsk, therefore, were on a high level. Special treatments were very expensive and there were but few hospitals in which one could be treated free of charge. There were special polyclinics and ambulatoriums in which physicians had an opportunity to accept private patients.
33. There were no epidemics in Pyatigorsk after 1941. The city buried its dead in a cemetery located on the slope of Mt Mashuk.

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34. The chief educational institutions were Pedagogical Institute and Medical Technical Institute. These were located close to each other on the main street. [redacted] Regulations for attending these schools stipulated that one had to be between 19 and 35 years of age, a citizen of the USSR, not related to a political prisoner, and able to pay relatively high tuition. 25X1
35. There was a weather analysis station (probably Weather Forecasting Bureau). [redacted] 25X1
36. There were five movie theaters in the city. [redacted] 25X1
37. The city had one large theater located behind the park. Operas, operettas, and dramas were presented in this theater weekly.
38. The city had a large sports stadium called "Dynamo". It was located not far from the railroad station. All sports were played here, the most popular of which was football (soccer). There was a large hippodrome ten kilometers south of Pyatigorsk. Races which attracted large crowds were held here; most spectators were from out of town. There were two sports clubs: "Dynamo" and "Spartak". They were busy with soccer, racing, jumping, swimming, horizontal bars, and other gymnastics.
39. The city had cavalry, tank, and parachute units. The cavalry unit was located in a camp on the slope of Mt Mashuk. This camp had many barracks which were in good condition and a large drill field. The tank school was located three kilometers from the city, across the Podkumok River. This school had a few training tanks and several prime-movers. During the war, parachute and maritime infantry units trained in this city; they were quartered in various school buildings.
40. There were three groups which prepared the population for civil defense in case of military threats.
- (a) P V Kh O (Anti-Air-Chemical Defense). Everyone, without exception, had to complete courses conducted by this group. Classes were held in clubrooms and schools.
  - (b) The G S O (Preparation for Sanitation Organization). This course was also obligatory.
  - (c) The OSOVIACHIM (Defense against Chemical Warfare). This was also an obligatory course for everyone and, upon passing examinations, a badge was issued which was worn on the chest. This badge had to be displayed on various holidays -- First-of-May Parade for example. Approximately 85 per cent of the population had documents which gave them the right to wear such a badge.

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